

MEETING RECORD  
**SAN GABRIEL MOUNTAINS COMMUNITY COLLABORATIVE**

Thursday, March 23, 2017 – 9:00 AM-1:00 PM

Altadena Community Center, Altadena, CA

**ATTENDEES**

<b>Member</b>	<b>Present</b>		
<b>Margaret Clark</b> , <i>Rivers &amp; Mountains Conservancy</i>	<b>X</b>	<b>Chuck Myers</b> , <i>National Forest Homeowners</i>	<b>X</b>
<b>Irma "Kelly" Carle</b> , <i>Antelope Valley Unit, Backcountry Horseman of California</i>	<b>X</b>	<b>Michelle Nuttall</b> , <i>Southern California Edison</i>	<b>X</b>
<b>Ann Croissant</b> , <i>San Gabriel Mountains Regional Conservancy</i>	<b>X</b>	<b>JJ Ortega</b> , <i>San Gabriel Valley Conservation Corps (for Daniel Oaxaca)</i>	<b>X</b>
<b>Kelly Gardner</b> , <i>San Gabriel Valley Water Association</i>	<b>X</b>	<b>Bill Reeves</b> , <i>Fisheries Resources Volunteer Corps</i>	<b>X</b>
<b>Omar Gomez</b> , <i>COFEM</i>	<b>X</b>	<b>Andrew Pineda</b> , <i>Amigos de los Rios (for Claire Robinson)</i>	<b>X</b>
<b>Cliff Hamlow</b> , <i>CalFire</i>	<b>X</b>	<b>Daniel Rossman</b> , <i>The Wilderness Society</i>	<b>X</b>
<b>Henry Herrera</b> , <i>San Gabriel Valley Legislative Coalition of Chambers</i>	<b>X</b>	<b>Ben Smith</b> , <i>Community of Wrightwood</i>	<b>X</b>
<b>Steve Messer</b> , <i>Concerned Off-Road Bicyclists Association</i>	<b>X</b>	<b>Lee Smith</b> , <i>CA Rifle &amp; Pistol Association</i>	<b>X</b>
<b>John Mosen</b> , <i>The Sierra Club</i>	<b>X</b>	<b>John Tobin</b> , <i>Pasadena Casting Club</i>	<b>X</b>
<b>Judy Nelson</b> , <i>City of Glendora</i>	<b>X</b>		

**FOREST SERVICE**

Jeffrey Vail, Adrienne Dunfee, Angeles National Forest

**CONVENERS/FACILITATION TEAM**

Karen DiBari and Edward Belden, National Forest Foundation (NFF)

## **RECAP OF ACTION ITEMS**

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1. Supervisor Vail will provide an annotated description of each of the priority projects on the POW FY 2017.
  2. Henry Herrea, from CalFire, will pass along grant programs for fuel reduction work to Supervisor Vail.
  3. Karen DiBari will share examples from the Beaverhead-Deerlodge and Idaho Panhandle National Forests for collaborative development of criteria for projects and long term priorities.
  4. The Monument Plan and Transportation Coordinating Committee will develop a draft process for the public to provide input into the POW for full review by the Collaborative and submit the final by April 10.
  5. Communications Committee members who are interested in joining the Steering Committee should let Daniel Rossman know.
  6. The NFF to provide information on the objections process so it can be determined if a group must object to have standing.
  7. The Steering Committee will develop a Communications Plan to handle general SGMCC communications
  8. Steve Messer will communicate with the person who had expressed interest in serving on the SGMCC to let them know the timeline is delayed on membership decisions.
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## **WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS**

Karen DiBari opened the meeting and everyone said hello around the table. Seventeen San Gabriel Mountains Community Collaborative (SGMCC) members, one alternate, and two Forest Service representatives were present during the meeting.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The National Forest Foundation (NFF) is hosting the USFS Region 5 Capacity Building Workshop for California community-based and collaborative forest management groups in Sacramento on May 24, 2017. NFF will send invitations to the full Collaborative list. The registration link is [HERE](#).

Michelle Nuttall is a member of the USFS National Advisory Committee for the Implementation of the Planning Rule, and attended her first meeting. The Committee is charged with offering recommendations on public engagement and stakeholder collaboration, monitoring, communications to build understanding of the planning process, and best practices and lessons learned from early implementation of the 2012 Planning Rule.

## **FOREST SERVICE UPDATES**

Supervisor Jeffrey Vail provided an update on Angeles National Forest (ANF) and the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument:

- The ANF is continuing to work on the Monument Management Plan to ensure that the comments are properly addressed in the final document. The release maybe pushed back a few months to ensure a high quality final product.
- The ANF has obtained clearance from the Department of Agriculture to reorganize from

three units to two units. The ANF is working to match personnel with the two new districts: LA Gateway District (includes part of the LA River Ranger District and Santa Clara Mojave District) and the San Gabriel Monument District.

- The ANF is nearing completion of updating all telecommunications special use permits and plans. The ANF has around 1,100 special use permits so it takes some time to process them all.
- Coca Cola leadership and employees will be participating in a work day on April 21, 2017 at Chantry Flats. The ANF is looking for ways to partner with for additional organizations to address the needs of the forest.
- The Federal Lands Access Program, part of the Federal Highway Authority, is providing technical assistance to the ANF.
- Trails Planning Efforts are underway working with multiple groups including The Wilderness Society and other members of the Collaborative.
- The ANF has channeled money to the National Fish & Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) to develop a Trail Management Plan
- The ANF is working with the NFF and Washington Office on additional funding for recreation projects.
- The ANF has a detailer for the Trails Coordinator and will fill a permanent position once the detail is over and the hiring freeze is lifted.
- Currently under the hiring freeze, law enforcement and fire are exempt from that freeze; law enforcement has vacancies open that the ANF is working to fill.
- Supervisor Vail and the ANF staff will be meeting with Congressman Napolitano and Caltrans about Hwy 39.

### **FOREST SERVICE PROGRAM OF WORK**

Supervisor Vail explained the process and approach for the ANF Program of Work (POW) for FY 2017. He provided a list of the priority projects that they are working on, each of which has staff hours associated with them. This list includes projects that are in the idea stage (pre-National Environmental Policy Act, or NEPA), those that are currently being analyzed under NEPA, and those that are being implemented.

At the top of the list are the Admin, Supervisory, and Operations & Maintenance type work that all employees are working on. The Program of Work is a living document, meaning that projects and priorities can shift and move.

### **Questions and Additional Items about the Program of Work:**

- The ANF is working on closure orders for glass bottles.
- Volunteer-led projects are critical, but may not be on POW.
- Bill Reeves mentioned the work they have done to remove trash recently and microtrash is another huge problem for birds and wildlife.
- The ANF has transferred funding to NFWF to complete the environmental analysis for the Williamson Rock project, looking to engage stakeholders in the near future about this effort.
- San Gabriel Dam Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) Exemption is an effort from the City of Pasadena for a conduit exemption, meaning Pasadena would not have

to get a new license through the FERC process.

- The current Forest Service Volunteer Coordinator is Chris Fabbro.
- Supervisory Vail would prefer to focus on these priorities until they are done. If an item is on their program of work, the ANF is committed to taking it to completion.
- The question arose to the difference between the Schedule of Proposed Actions (SOPA) and the Program of Work (POW). The SOPA provides a process for the public to engage on actions that have already been identified as projects in the Program of Work.
- Many SGMCC members that were involved in the previous forest planning effort saw that many of the projects and goals were not achieved and thus are interested in making sure that the POW reflects the new Monument Plan.
- The group had a general discussion about how the SGMCC could engage with the ANF in out-year planning and prioritization.

**\*Consensus decision:** The SGMCC agreed to provide a process for the public to provide input into the POW by April 10. Supervisor Vail will provide feedback at the April meeting. This will be drafted by the Monument Plan and Transportation Coordinating Committee.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

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1. Supervisor Vail will provide an annotated description of each of the priority projects on the POW FY 2017.
2. Henry Herrea, from CalFire, will pass along grant programs for fuel reduction work to Supervisor Vail.
3. Karen DiBari will share examples from the Beaverhead-Deerlodge and Idaho Panhandle National Forests for collaborative development of criteria for projects and long term priorities.
4. The Monument Plan and Transportation Coordinating Committee will develop a draft process for the public to provide input into the POW for full review by the Collaborative and submit the final by April 10.

### COMMITTEE BREAK OUT SESSIONS

See ATTACHED Committee Action Plans

### MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS & WRAP UP

#### **Objection Process**

There was a brief discussion of the objection process and the desire to understand it better. . The SGMCC asked the NFF to provide information on the objections process so it can be determined if a group must object to have standing.

#### **Steering Committee absorbing the Communications Committee**

The Steering Committee has offered to take on the responsibilities of the Communications Committee. The Steering Committee will develop a process for Communications.

**\*Consensus decision:** The SGMCC approved the Steering Committee taking on the roles of the Communications Committee with the following conditions: 1) the Steering Committee ensure that current members of the Communications Committee are included in the discussions about communications issues; 2) a former member of the Communications Committee be added to the

Steering Committee; and 3) the Steering Committee develop a Communications Plan to handle general SGMCC communications.

**Membership**

The Steering Committee is not taking any action on membership until the SGMCC action plan is finalized. Therefore, the OHV membership is still open and pending.

**ACTION ITEMS**

5. Communications Committee members who are interested in joining the Steering Committee should let Daniel Rossman know.
6. The NFF to provide information on the objections process so it can be determined if a group must object to have standing.
7. The Steering Committee will develop a Communications Plan to handle general SGMCC communications
8. Steve Messer will communicate with the person who had expressed interest in serving on the SGMCC to let them know the timeline is delayed on membership decisions.

**Projects Committee**

Steve Messer Agreed to chair the Projects Committee. Ben Smith is thinking over a co-chair position.

**Meeting Locations**

Steering Committee will discuss meeting location at their next meeting, Wrightwood was proposed for the late spring or early summer. In general, people like the Altadena location but think it worthwhile to meet periodically in other locations around the ANF.

ROUND ROBIN

What is working well?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Enjoys hearing from FS, good time to lay the foundation</li><li>• Interested in seeing where the projects move</li><li>• Likes the idea of educating the committee on projects the FS is working on</li><li>• Enjoys working with the ANF, thinks Jeff is one of the best supervisors</li><li>• Happy to see the responses from the Forest Service</li><li>• Pivotal moment for the SGMCC and the role we play, developed some ambitious goals</li><li>• Excited about the opportunity to go beyond the Monument Management Plan</li><li>• The committees structures to ensure that they accomplish the goals they want to achieve</li><li>• This SGMCC has a very high visibility in the Forest Service that is more policy focused and pushing how the ANF and other forests work with the public</li><li>• Started as a controversial initiative, finalized as a Monument Plan, looking forward to hearing about what else is going on.</li><li>• Implementation is always the weakest link in a plan</li><li>• Glad to be involved and working with the SGMCC and fully committed to the group</li><li>• Involvement and an avenue for creating positive changes</li><li>• Jeff is a great leader in the FS.</li></ul>

<b>What needs improvement?</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Shifting baselines within the FS and in the Angeles need to be reduced, that is where strong measureable objectives in the Monument Plan will help.</li> </ul>

### RECORD OF DECISIONS

Decision	Consensus
The SGMCC agreed to provide to the ANF a process for the public to provide input into the POW by April 10.	Yes
The SGMCC approved the Steering Committee taking on the roles of the Communications Committee with the following conditions: 1) the Steering Committee ensure that current members of the Communications Committee are included in the discussions about communications issues; 2) a former member of the Communications Committee be added to the Steering Committee; and 3) the Steering Committee develop a Communications Plan to handle general SGMCC communications.	Yes